ADDRESS OF THE DEWAN

TO THE

MYSORE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

(DASARA SESSION)

2ND OCTOBER 1922

PART I

GENTLEMEN,

It is my proud privilege, by command of His Highness the Maharaja, to welcome you as the representatives of the people to the thirty-ninth Dasara session of the Mysore Representative Assembly, to lay before you the important features connected with the administration of the State during the past year, and indicate briefly and in general terms, the measures as well as the problems that are engaging the attention of His Highness' Government at the present moment, with a view to make a further advance in the enlightened and progressive policy of His Highness in the administration of his State in the near future.

Since this Assembly met in session on the last occasion in June, a fresh triennial election of the members has taken place and the present Assembly, therefore, is entitled to a special welcome, and I offer to the members,—both individually and collectively—my heartiest congratulations on the success they have achieved at the polls. I have watched with the greatest satisfaction the keen interest that has been evinced in the elections in all the districts—an indication of the high value attached by the people at large to membership of this Assembly. The problems of administration that we have to face grow in complexity from year to year, and, on behalf of His Highness' Government, may I express the hope that you will bring to bear on the task that lies before you the same qualities of debate and discussion that have characterised this Assembly throughout, and not only maintain but raise

the level of the high traditions which this unique institution has successfully established in the past.

Before proceeding to discharge my privileged task, I should like to convey, on behalf of this Assembly and all the Government members present here to-day, our respectful congratulations to His Highness the Yuvaraja on the birth of a Princess which happy event took place on the 28th August last.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales' Visit.

The most noteworthy event of the year was the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to this State in January last. His Royal Highness arrived at Bangalore on the 18th January 1922 and proceeded to Mysore the following day. He spent three days at Mysore and two days in the shooting camp at Karapur. During his stay in Mysore, His Royal Highness visited the Krishnarajasagara and Seringapatam and also some local institutions at the Capital. His Royal Highness' visit gave unqualified satisfaction to His Highness the Maharaja as well as to his subjects, and His Highness the Maharaja now commands me to express his appreciation of the enthusiastic reception which was given by them to his illustrious guest. On leaving the State, His Royal Highness sent a farewell message to His Highness the Maharaja in the following terms:—

> "On leaving Your Highness' State I thank Your Highness very warmly for all your kindness and hospitality. I much enjoyed my visit. It was a great pleasure to make Your Highness' acquaintance. I much admired the beauties of Mysore and the efficiency of the administration of the State. I am very grateful to Your Highness' subjects for the warm reception they gave me."

and His Highness replied to this message as follows:—

> "Allow me to tender my warmest thanks to Your Royal Highness for the gracious message which you have been pleased to send me on leaving my State. Your Royal Highness' visit gave me and my people unbounded pleasure. The remembrance of it will always be precious to us."

His Highness the Maharaja's Tours.

His Highness the Maharaja made four tours during the year—two in Northern India and the other two within

the State. His Highness visited Benares in December last to preside at the special Convocation of the Benares University for the conferring of an Honorary Degree on H. R. H. the Prince of Wales. Subsequently on the 24th April 1922 His Highness left Mysore on a visit to Simla and after making a stay of about four weeks there, returned to his Capital on the 28th May 1922. The main object of His Highness' visit to Simla was to have a personal interview with His Excellency the Viceroy on important State questions.

His Highness paid a visit to the Bhadravati Iron Works on the 10th March 1922 and made a detailed inspection not only of the blast furnace and the charcoal and wood distillation plant but also of the iron mines at Sankargudda and Chattanhalli as well as the fuel collection operations.

His Highness made a tour in the Mysore and Hassan Districts between the 21st and 27th June 1922 and received representations from the people which were dealt with in the various administrative departments.

Central Administration.

The Central Administration underwent an important change during the year. On the retirement of my illustrious predecessor Rajasevadhurina Sir M. Kantaraj Urs, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., and my assumption of charge of the Dewanship, opportunity was availed of to reduce the strength of the Executive Council of His Highness the Maharaja by one Member. You may remember that in the year 1917-18 an Extra Member of Council was appointed owing to a large increase in the volume of Government business which, according to the estimate of the then Dewan, had doubled during the preceding seven years. The appointment of the Extra Member continued on a tentative basis, and it was made provisionally permanent and continued as such up to the 6th of March 1922. The Central Administration is now being conducted by the Dewan and two Members of Council. The Secretariat establishments have, during the year, undergone considerable reductions, and they have been subjected recently to further reductions as a measure of retrenchment. The net savings effected by all these changes come to about a lakh and fifty thousand rupees per annum.

Central Recruitment Board.—In pursuance of the orders passed on the Miller Committee Report, a Central Recruitment Board was constituted early during the year, under the chairmanship of the present Second Member of

Council. The Board met six times and formulated proposals in regard to various important questions for the regulation of appointments and promotions in the State service. They registered 1,021 applications and issued a list of candidates to all the departments concerned. They have also prescribed returns to review the progress made in giving effect to the orders of Government, and the returns so far received show that 533 vacancies occurred during the half year ending 30th June 1922 and that 452 of them were filled up. Of the 452 persons appointed, 270 were Brahmins, 120 non-Brahmin Hindus, 29 Mahomedans, 29 Indian Christians and 4 of other communities. In the light of the past experience, the Board have recently submitted to Government recommendations with a view to simplify procedure and modify some of the existing orders. In view of the retrenchments that have been effected recently in the several departments of the State administration, the scope for making new appointments was extremely limited and it is therefore to be regretted that the process of absorbing in the service a large number of applicants that applied to the Board has been extremely slow. The situation at the present moment is, however, one of a very exceptional character. While, on the one hand, retrenchments leave little scope for fresh appointments, on the other, considerable hardship has been caused to a large number of employees thrown out from service. Government will now take early steps to review the position and issue definite instructions to ensure that the policy already formulated is steadily kept in view.

Representative Institutions.

The Representative Assembly.—As usual, there were two sittings of the Assembly during the year. In the Dasara session of October 1921, 213 out of a total of 270 members were present, and 178 subjects out of a total of 317 were discussed. The most important amongst these were the levy of the Education Cess, the extension of franchise to women, the orders on the Miller Committee Report, the representation of all communities in the Public Service, the Newspapers Regulation and Constitutional Reforms. At the Birthday session, last June, 202 out of 264 members were present, and 79 general subjects were discussed in addition to the State Budget. Besides the usual work of the Assembly at this supplementary session, six special subjects were placed by Government before the Assembly for discussion, one of which was the Irrigation Bill.

The Legislative Council.—The Mysore Legislative Council met three times during the year and dealt with 16 Bills of which 7 were eventually passed into law during the year, the most important of which being the Regulation to amend the Mysore Local Boards and Village Panchayats Regulation with a view to impose an Education Cess in the districts. Six Resolutions were brought up by the non-official members of the Legislative Council of which one was withdrawn and the others were accepted by Government with slight amendments agreed to by the movers. The most important of these related to (1) widening of the franchise, including the extension of votes to women, and (2) the institution of suits against Government.

The Mysore Economic Conference.—The Mysore Economic Development Board met three times during the year. The three Central Boards also met under the chairmanship of the Members of Council, at periodical intervals, to consider the several subjects and schemes included in their programme. Consequent on the abolition of the post of the Third Member of Council, Dr. Brajendranath Seal, Vice-Chancellor of our University, was appointed to the Chairmanship of the Board of Education and I am sure that he will be a valuable acquisition to the Economic Conference. A Committee consisting of officials and non-officials was appointed to go into the whole question of the constitution of the Economic Conference, and Government have passed orders making certain minor changes in the organisation with a view to reduce expenditure, keeping, however, the main lines of work unaltered as resolved upon at the annual session of the Conference last June.

Local Self Government.

The Local Boards and Village Panchayats Regulation was amended during the year to empower Local Boards to take up economic development work and to levy an Education Cess. Government have just passed orders sanctioning the election of a non-official President for the Bangalore District Board and the nomination of non-official Presidents for the two District Boards of Kolar and Hassan.

Finances.

The financial position as a whole and all the problems connected therewith were discussed by me at some

length in my opening Address at the last session of the Assembly, and I do not think it is necessary to refer in detail to them now. I should like, however, to invite your attention to some important points relating to our finances so as to keep you informed of the situation as it now stands and also of the measures that are being adopted by Government to improve it.

You will remember that according to the revised estimates for 1921-22 which I presented to this Assembly last June, the total revenue for the year was estimated at Rs. 306¾ lakhs and the total expenditure at Rs. 323¼ lakhs resulting in a deficit of Rs. 16½ lakhs. The preliminary actuals for that year are now ready and they show, I am glad to state, a net improvement of about Rs. 7¾ lakhs. The total revenue realized amounts to Rs. 316⅓ lakhs, and the major portion of the improvement of about Rs. 10 lakhs is contributed by increased collections under Land Revenue, Income-tax and Excise. The revenue from Income-tax has exceeded the expectations, and it is to be hoped that this source will maintain in the current year, if not exceed, the level of Rs. 14 lakhs which it reached in the last year. Under normal circumstances Income-tax should be an expanding source of revenue and if conditions are favourable for industries, trade and commerce, we may expect to realise about 16 lakhs of rupees per annum thereby effecting an improvement in the financial position, as described in my last Address, to the extent of about Rs. 6 lakhs. The Land Revenue collections came to Rs. 117 lakhs which is the highest on record except in one year namely 1919-20, and if the agricultural conditions continue to be satisfactory, I am confident that my anticipation of raising the annual standard of this source of income to Rs. 123 lakhs in three years as a result of accelerated Survey Settlements, special measures for expansion of cultivation, and vigorous collections, will be more than realised. The revenue under Excise is Rs. 1½ lakhs better than the revised estimate. The course of this revenue has latterly become somewhat uncertain, but if it keeps to the level of Rs. 76 lakhs reached in the last year, there may not be any serious disturbance in the figures adopted in my Financial Forecast. I anticipated a revenue of Rs. 23¾ lakhs from the electrical and Krishnarajasagara Works and the amount realised is about the same, being Rs. 23·93 lakhs. I took the net receipts of Railways at Rs. 8¼ lakhs and the actuals amount to about Rs. 8 lakhs.

On the expenditure side, the provisional actuals of last year amount to a total of Rs. 325¼ lakhs against Rs. 323¼ lakhs according to the revised estimate, the only

appreciable excesses appearing under the heads Army and Land Revenue. The increase under Army is due to the payment of certain arrear charges and the classification of the cost of Military Stores as final expenditure instead of as an advance, as has been hitherto the practice. The excess under Land Revenue is mainly on account of the additional remuneration paid to shanbhogues and patels owing to larger collections and increased rates of commission and stationery allowances. The variations under other heads are comparatively small and under many of them the actual expenditure is less than the revised estimate owing to strict control over expenditure in the closing months of the year exercised as a result of special orders. There is a large lapse of about Rs. 6½ lakhs under Interest Charges for last year not claimed by bond-holders, and this saving is therefore only a deferred liability which has to be discharged as claims are preferred.

The net result of last year's revenue transactions is a deficit of about Rs. 9 lakhs against Rs. 16½ lakhs anticipated in the revised estimate, and against a surplus of about Rs. 64,000 as anticipated in the budget. I should add that for want of resources, contributions to none of the reserves except the Loan Sinking Fund could be made last year and the payment made to this fund was only Rs. 12½ lakhs against Rs. 18¾ lakhs due to it, and as the revenue of the year could not afford to make even this payment, a sum of Rs. 12½ lakhs was adjusted from the reserve for Sinking Funds built up in previous years. The shortage of Rs. 9 lakhs, it will thus be seen, does not indicate the real deficit which is much larger if contributions to the essential reserves be taken into account.

The preliminary actuals of last year show that the total outlay on capital works was about Rs. 122 lakhs as follows:—

	Rs.
Railways and Tramways ...	20½ lakhs
Krishnarajasagara Works ...	9½ ,,
Electrical Works ...	36 ,,
Iron Works and connected Tramways...	55½ ,,
Other Works	½ ,,
Total ...	122 ,,

The revised estimate anticipated an expenditure of about Rs. 155 lakhs, and there is a lapse of about Rs. 33 lakhs chiefly on grants for Iron Works and Railways, as in respect of these works the progress was slackened limiting the operations to the essentially urgent requirements necessary to start the operations early. The bulk of it, however, has to be allotted to complete all the sanctioned works although the period has, according to the revised programme, been extended.

Loan Funds.—The amount of loans raised in the last two years was Rs. 329 lakhs and from this resource was met the capital outlay of Rs. 111 lakhs in 1920-21 and of Rs. 122 lakhs in 1921-22. The current year's budget provides for an expenditure of Rs. 46½ lakhs and a large part of the lapse of Rs. 33 lakhs on the capital grants for last year has to be re-allotted this year. The revenue deficits in the three years from 1920-21 amount to about Rs. 29 lakhs and have also been temporarily met from the loan funds. The entire proceeds of the loans have thus been utilised and no balance is left for further capital expenditure.

The first quarter of the current year has just closed and it is too early to judge what the position is likely to be at the end of the year. The south-west monsoon has been on the whole favourable and if the north-east monsoon likewise proves to be seasonable and sufficient, we may expect that a good year is in prospect and that most of our revenue anticipations will be fully realised. We are, however, just now passing through anxious times. As regards expenditure, I wish to repeat what I stated in June last, *viz.*, that in addition to a reduction of about Rs. 16½ lakhs already effected in framing the budget estimates for the current year, retrenchments to the extent of about Rs. 7 lakhs would be attempted as part of the scheme for reducing our financial position to order. I may state that measures of retrenchment resulting in a saving of about Rs. 4 lakhs have already been ordered and proposals for effecting a furtlier saving of about Rs. 4 lakhs are under the consideration of Government. As a result of retrenchment orders already issued and to be issued in the near future, the expenditure budgetted for in the current year, *viz.*, Rs. 332 lakhs will be reduced and the bulk of the anticipated saving of Rs. 7 lakhs realised in the current year itself. This is a rate of progress achieved which I did not anticipate in my previous Address. I must state that the reductions ordered and in contemplation, affect almost all departments and require some time to enforce them without dislocating the working of the departments and without causing undue hardship to the staff to be disbanded. The several measures decided upon for securing economy are in different stages of execution and every effort is being made to improve the financial position as far as possible in the current year.

In framing the budget of the current year, I counted upon a receipt of Rs. 16½ lakhs on account of surplus revenues of the C. and M. Station, out of which

Rs. 10 lakhs were expected on account of arrears, that is, for three years ending 1920-21, and Rs. 6½ lakhs as the surplus payable for the year 1921-22. I am glad to be able to state that towards the arrears, the Government of India have paid a sum of Rs. 13⅓ lakhs and I therefore anticipate that under this head, a sum of about Rs. 20 lakhs including the surplus payable for the past year will be realised, and it has been decided that the major portion of this sum should, as I stated in June last, be paid to the Loan Sinking Fund.

I do not wish to allude again to the scheme sketched in my last Address to the Assembly for balancing our annual budgets and for stabilizing our financial position. The most important principle, as emphasized then, was the separation of productive works finance from general finance and to balance normal revenue and normal service expenditure. I think it will be enough, therefore, if I now assure you that all the measures indicated for attaining these ideals are receiving continuous attention.

The problem of financing the next few years' capital works to which we are committed and which cannot under any circumstances be shut down, without recourse, if possible, to borrowing is as urgent as it is important, and I may state that this is also receiving the best consideration of Government.

The question of the indirect contributions by the people of Mysore to the Government of India on account of customs revenue is also engaging the serious attention of Government.

Cash Position.—The revised estimate anticipated a cash balance on the 1st July 1922, of Rs. 91 lakhs. The actual balance, however, was Rs. 138½ lakhs, that is, Rs. 47½ lakhs better than the forecast. This improvement is chiefly due, as I have already stated, to better collections under some of the principal heads of revenue and the lapse of grants for capital works. The major part of this additional balance is required in the current year for meeting the arrear interest charges and the demands of capital works. The cash position, therefore, is one of temporary surplus, and arrangements have been made to find for such surplus short-term investments that may bring in as much interest as possible.

Assets and Liabilities.

Assets.—The cash balance of Rs. 121 lakhs on the 1st July 1921 included an ineffective balance of Rs. 35 lakhs

in the Mysore Bank to be left there according to the agreement with the Bank in regard to the 6½ per cent loan. The cash balance on the 1st July 1922 included a similar ineffective balance of Rs. 47 lakhs in the same bank. Making allowance for these deductions, the balances on the 1st July 1921, *i.e.*, about Rs. 86 lakhs and on the 1st July 1922, about Rs. 92 lakhs, do not show any material difference.

Investment Account.—The balance of the investment account on the 1st July 1922 was Rs. 180 lakhs and this included Rs. 30 lakhs on account of short-term investments in bank deposits and Indian Treasury Bills. Excluding such investments, the balance was Rs. 150 lakhs, against Rs. 98 lakhs at the beginning of last year. Our Security Investments which represent the liquid reserves to be kept for our liabilities such as Famine Insurance, Savings Bank, etc., had been heavily depleted by the end of 1920-21 and they had to be strengthened and whatever subscriptions to our 6½ and 7 per cent loans were received in the form of Government of India Bonds were transferred to the Investment Fund.

Capital Assets.—Our assets in the form of productive works at the beginning of the current year were Rs. 1,015 lakhs against Rs. 893 lakhs at the beginning of last year. The difference represents the capital outlay of Rs. 122 lakhs incurred in 1921-22.

Liabilities.—Our debt on the 1st July 1921 was Rs. 309 lakhs and it had risen to Rs. 510 lakhs on the 1st July 1922. The difference represents the loan of about two crores raised last year. The differences under other heads are comparatively small. For purposes of comparison, the balance figures at the beginning of the two years are shown in the annexed statement:—

Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

	Accounts, 30th June 1921.	Preliminary accounts, 30th June 1922.
	Rs.	Rs.
ASSETS—		
Cash balance	1,20,79,335	1,38,65,861
Investment account ...	98,28,046	1,80,27,480
Capital	8,93,15,934	10,15,35,312
Advances	56,86,700	52,11,347
Loans	26,33,983	21,98,499
Railway Sterling Loan Sinking Fund Investment ...	1,10,17,358	1,10,17,358
Total ...	13,05,61,356	15,18,55,857

LIABILITIES—		
Debt	3,09,26,140	5,09,77,352
Insurance and Provident Funds	58,91,456	63,67,056
Savings Bank Deposits ...	77,09,810	78,82,718
Endowment and other accounts	15,74,634	16,39,544
Reserve Funds (Famine Insurance, Depreciation, Mining Revenue Capitalization and other Funds) ...	1,58,35,487	1,67,88,647
Local and other funds ...	64,28,348	67,58,056
Deposits	21,10,875	28,31,967
Miscellaneous	12,26,286	6,37,693
Total ...	7,17,03,036	9,38,83,033
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	5,88,58,320	5,79,72,824
Total ...	13,05,61,356	15,18,55,857

I have, as usual, given you the most salient features in the administration of the various State departments in a separate Part which you will find contains something more than mere routine and statistical information, as has been the practice hitherto. I will now proceed to deal with some of the larger questions which are engaging the attention of His Highness' Government.

Food Production in the State.

Agriculture is the main industry of the bulk of the population of Mysore; and I have taken pains to collect some information with a view to place before this Assembly the unsatisfactory economic condition of the agriculturists as a whole and the insufficiency of the food produced in the State. During my recent tour, large extents of cultivable land which were lying fallow or unoccupied struck me very forcibly as a matter deserving investigation. In one of the bulletins of the Mysore Economic Conference issued in February 1913, Sir Alfred Chatterton, the then Director of Industries and Commerce, stated that agriculture in Mysore was in a stationary condition as regards the area under cultivation and that Mysore did not grow enough food to meet the normal requirements of the people. Later reviews and publications also confirm the view that there is considerable scope for increasing the area under food crops in the State, specially under rice and ragi. Looking into the figures under occupied and cultivated area for the 10 years ending 1920-21, it is found that, although the extent of land under occupation increased from 7,545,521 acres in 1911-12 to 7,858,729 acres in 1920-21, the increase being slightly more than 300,000 acres, the net cropped area declined from

6,047,455 acres in 1911-12 to 5,954,930 acres in 1920-21 and the extent of land under "fallows" increased from 149,866 acres to 190,799 acres. The total area under occupation during 1921-22 was 7,901,583 acres and the net area cropped was 6,094,165 acres of which the area cultivated with food crops was 4,341,190 acres. At the present moment the total extent of assessed unoccupied land available for cultivation is 743,490 acres. In addition to this, there are 120,000 acres of Amrut Mahal Kavals and 400,000 acres of date grove lands surrendered to the Revenue Department. On a rough calculation I find that the food requirements of the State are as follow:—

Rice	..	.. 2,192,000 pallas
Ragi	..	.. 7,685,000 pallas
and Jolam	..	.. 1,315,000 pallas

or a total of 11,192,000 pallas. According to the statistics furnished in the Season and Crop Reports the average total outturn of these crops during the past three years was however only 8,147,968 pallas under the three heads. There is considerable fluctuation from year to year due, no doubt, to the varying seasonal conditions, but it is clear that even in the most favourable year, production falls short of the demand by lakhs of pallas. This is not a satisfactory state of affairs for an agricultural country like Mysore. In spite of all that has been done in recent years to encourage agricultural development, the State does not produce enough food for its own requirements and is, even in normal years, dependent on imports from outside. It is therefore urgently necessary to make very earnest efforts to improve the food resources of the State. One of the obvious measures is to bring more land under cultivation; and it is mainly with this object that Government have recently appointed a Special Officer to assist the Revenue Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioners in disposing of the large extents of unoccupied lands, including those made available by the relinquishment of kavals and date groves by the Amrut Mahal and Excise Departments. It appears to me that an economic survey is necessary with a view to ascertain the exact position of the agricultural population of the State and the agricultural stock, in order mainly to determine the question as to whether they are sufficient for any large scheme of expansion of cultivation. Enquiries made by me during my tour in the maidan parts of the State lead me to believe that there is quite a large population amongst the landless classes who have been for years together applying for land but have been unable to get

it, and that our system of disposal of land for cultivation purposes by the Revenue Department, requires revision. There is considerable delay in the disposal of darkhasts generally. Applications for portions of gomal or for Amrut Mahal Kaval or for date reserve lands from persons capable of bringing the land under cultivation usually result, after many years of correspondence, in an order to put the land to auction. An enquiry is necessary to ascertain, therefore, the exact local demand for additional land to satisfy all such legitimate requirements without placing undue restrictions, and Government may go further and afford suitable encouragement to people with insufficient capital to take up lands for the production of food crops under concession rates of assessment or suspension of revenue for the first few years.

The scheme of large landed estates which was introduced years ago does not also appear to have made sufficient progress; for, out of a total number of 377 applications received, 267 were rejected and 85 are pending.

Then, as regards smaller holdings which should be established according to the capacity of the cultivators to develop agriculture it appears that amongst the *holeyars* and *madigas* who form nearly one-sixth of the total population of the State, there are a large number of applicants for the grant of lands whose cases have not been disposed of yet, and a scheme for settling these people in suitable neighbourhoods and utilising them for the expansion of cultivation may be taken up for early consideration. The question of making free grants of lands to the depressed classes is already before Government and it is necessary to refer to the District and Talukwar distribution of these classes and make proportionate allotments and also encourage the formation of Co-operative Societies and Grain Banks amongst them for the development of thrift to improve their economic condition.

Looking at the question from another standpoint, the agricultural statistics show that the total number of holdings in the State is 1,063,532 with a total extent of 7,848,229 acres, that the average extent of holdings is thus a little more than 7 acres, and that the average assessment paid by a raiyat is a little less than ten rupees. From these figures it is clear that there is abundant scope for the present landlords to extend their holdings and take up more lands and thus solve to some extent the problem of expansion of cultivation and increase of food crops.

In the year 1918-19 the State experienced a serious difficulty in the food situation and in that year the Dewan, Sir M. Kantaraj Urs, in his Address to the Representative

Assembly said:—"It is incumbent on us to see that we grow sufficient quantity of food grains in normal years and that sufficient quantity of food grains is always retained in the country in order that we might not throw ourselves every time on the generosity of our neighbours in British India at the first sign of the failure of the monsoon rains." It is necessary that the note of warning should be ever borne in mind by the people of Mysore and that Government should take suitable measures to help the people to get over the difficulty with the resources at their command.

Educational Finance.

A full statement of the measures adopted by Government to give effect to the Education Memorandum has been placed before the Legislative Council at its last meeting. Though a good deal of preliminary work has been done by the department, the progress made so far is slow owing mainly to want of funds. The percentage of expenditure on education to the total revenues. is already about 14 including revenues from Capital and Industrial works. The percentage to normal revenues is 17.

In my concluding Address at the last Birthday session of this Assembly I stated that Government would examine the whole question of Educational Finance once more with reference to the representation made by the District Boards against the resumption of Local Fund General and Mohatarfa assigned to them in 1917. I am now in a position to state that a detailed examination of the finances of each District Board has been made, and Government find that the representations deserve consideration. With the aid of the additional resources placed at their disposal, the District Boards have increased their expenditure in several directions, chiefly in larger mileage grants for the maintenance of roads, increased expenditure on medical relief, additional establishments, contributions for veterinary work, etc. It is now clear that it is not possible to withdraw the resources that were made over to the District Boards under Local Fund General and Mohatarfa. Taking, however, the general position in regard to the introduction of the reforms decided upon in the orders on the Education Memorandum, it is absolutely necessary for Government, at least during the next few years, to provide for additional funds. The orders on the Memorandum were issued more than a year ago, but little or no progress has been made to give effect even to the most urgent improvements, *viz.*, the remodelling of primary and middle school

education, the conversion of the various classes of middle schools to one uniform type, the introduction of polytechnics, improvement of the salaries of teachers of all grades, the strengthening of the Inspectorate, and the conversion of the numerous village aided-schools into Government schools. The present accommodation in most of the Government schools, especially primary and Anglo-Vernacular Schools, is inadequate. Some of the High Schools also appear to be highly congested. It is necessary to provide additional accommodation in all grades of education as early as possible.

The programme originally laid down counted not only upon the Mohatarfa and Local Fund General as revenue derived from local sources, but also on the education cess. Government are unable to lay their hands on the first source owing to the needs of the District Boards; and as regards the second, the expectations have not been realised. It was calculated that a cess of one anna in the rupee would be raised by all the District Boards on certain items of revenue and of two annas in the rupee in the City Municipalities, and one anna in the rupee in the other municipalities. So far, only two District Boards namely those of Bangalore and Chitaldrug have levied the cess and that only at the rate of half an anna in the rupee. Moreover, though proposals to amend the Municipal Regulation to enable the municipalities to levy the education cess are now before the Legislative Council, it is ascertained that 42 municipalities in the State out of a total of 102 have expressed themselves as not in favour of raising a cess for educational expenditure in their areas. The unwillingness of local bodies to raise the cess is probably due to a misapprehension. It was not made clear at first that the cess raised would be utilised only in the particular area in which it is raised and with the consent of the local body concerned. This misapprehension has now been removed by an order of Government, and it is hoped that the example of the Bangalore and Chitaldrug District Boards will be followed elsewhere in the State. As regards the realizations from the cess in the Bangalore and the Chitaldrug Districts, Government have issued orders utilizing them for educational improvements in those districts towards the conversion of 102 village aided schools into Government institutions, opening of 13 new schools, and the conversion of 14 Rural A.-V. and vernacular middle schools into middle schools of the new A.-V. type, as well as for effecting improvements in staff and equipment of these schools. Government propose to supplement

the revenue from the cess in these two districts, by an additional grant to enable the conversion of some more schools and for providing school buildings. At the same time, Government do not intend to be altogether unfair to the districts in which the cess is not being levied, although it stands to reason that the progress in those districts in introducing educational reforms according to the programme laid down cannot be at the same rate as in the districts where additional resources are found by the people. The Inspector-General of Education has now been requested to submit proposals for an expenditure of a sum of a lakh of rupees beyond what is provided in the current year's budget, for improvements of a purely provincial character in which the six districts which do not levy the cess as well as the two districts of Bangalore and Chitaldrug will share.

Further, a definite programme with correct estimates will now be framed immediately so that further measures according to the orders of Government can be introduced rapidly with effect from the 1st July 1923, and orders to this effect have already been issued to the Inspector-General. I earnestly hope that before the official year is over, the other districts will fall in line with the two districts of Bangalore and Chitaldrug and render it easy for Government to completely carry out their programme of educational reform; and, on the part of Government, I may give the assurance that they will not hesitate to enhance grants in the next year's Education budget to the extent that is necessary to make provision for all the schemes that are urgent.

The further development of the Mysore University is also engaging the anxious consideration of the Government. The three most essential points in this connection are:—

(1) The necessity of waiting and seeing how the other Indian Universities, and especially the Madras University, proceed in the matter of reform and re-organization;

(2) The necessity of developing vocational training in connection with the Entrance and the First Year Courses; and,

(3) Fixing the State grant to the limit required for maintaining the existing organization in a state of efficiency.

The present year's grant being low the reserve balances at the credit of the University will be drawn upon by the end of June 1923. The provision of increased funds from the next year is an absolute necessity as the

further development of the University on a regional basis is urgent, specially because openings in other universities are being closed to our students and every Province is starting a University of its own. The cultivation of the resources—natural and moral of the State, demands the supply of efficient agents properly trained, and the State should provide for such training in the University. All these questions will receive careful attention.

Railway Finance.

As regards the Railway financial policy it has been urged by the Agent and Railway Secretary, that the arrears of maintenance of the open lines and sufficient equipment to enable them to meet adequately the requirements of the growing goods and passenger traffic have to be first met before Government sanction any heavy expenditure on new lines that cannot possibly pay their way until they have been in existence for some years. The total requirements during the next five years under the above heads are estimated by the Railway Department to be Rs. 96 lakhs, and it has been reported that the capital expenditure during the next three years will be chiefly on renewals on the Bangalore-Mysore section and under new engines and rolling stock. The Birur-Shimoga and the Mysore-Nanjangud sections will also require renewals. The estimate of Rs. 96 lakhs for five years involves a capital expenditure of about Rs. 20 lakhs a year, and I indicate these essential requirements of our railway administration to point out the utter impossibility for Government to undertake any new railway projects in the near future.

Owing to various causes, the chief of them being the difficulty of getting railway material during the War, the urgent demands under Krishnarajasagara and the Iron Scheme, sufficient allotments could not be made during the past several years for the improvement of our railway assets. Government are now faced with the difficulty of having to provide very large capital grants for renewals in the permanent way as well as additional engines and rolling stock for these lines. It is therefore necessary to devise measures by which the construction of all the new lines which has been stopped owing to financial stringency, may be resumed without seriously dislocating the State's finances or without any necessity for public loans. Proposals have been made by Government to some of the District Boards to consider the question with a view to see

if they can raise any capital in the districts to provide the requisite funds to complete the construction of those lines so that they may be part-proprietors with Government of such railways. I hope that this matter will receive due consideration from the general public.

Railway Cess.—In this connection it may be useful if I give some particulars regarding the railway cess. The average annual collection of railway cess is about 2¾ lakhs. No expenditure has been incurred against the railway cess in any of the districts except Kolar. The only Board which owns a railway is the Kolar District Board and the cess realisations of this Board have been used for meeting its share of capital expenditure of the Kolar District Board Railway. A portion of the railway cess (under which the total collection up to date amounts to Rs. 11,95,000) has been invested in savings banks and the rest forms part of the treasury balances of the District Boards. No railway cess is levied in the districts of Hassan and Bangalore. Chitaldrug has to its credit a sum of Rs. 3,08,052, Kadur Rs. 2,30,000, Tumkur Rs. 2,25,869, Mysore Rs. 2,63,617 and Shimoga Rs. 1,69,662.

During my recent tour a certain amount of public dissatisfaction was expressed that although railway cess is being levied, no advantage has been derived by the people by way of railway facilities. I do see the point of this complaint, for, there is no reason why Tumkur should have a railway cess imposed whereas Hassan does not pay any railway cess although it is only in recent years that the Hassan District has got a State Railway. It seems therefore nessessary to consult the District Boards in regard to the policy of utilizing the railway cess already collected; and if there is no project or scheme likely to be taken up by them for some years to come, whether they would recommend the abolition or suspension of the cess for some time. The railway cess now collected is not credited to the State revenues but has been specially reserved for railway feeder lines.

Postal and Telegraph Facilities.

There has been an insistent demand both in this Assembly and outside for the improvement of the existing postal and telegraph facilities in the State. Government have been paying special attention to this subject.

Before the amalgamation of the Mysore *anche* with the British Postal System, there were in the State 417

Post Offices. To-day there are 503 offices of which 64 are combined Post and Telegraph Offices. The rate of increase is not commensurate with the demands of the administration and the needs of the people, and it has not compared favourably with the rate of progress in the other parts of India. The question was taken up by me during my deputation to Simla in 1919 and as a result of the representations then made and subsequent correspondence between His Highness' Government and the British Postal and Telegraph authorities, an understanding has now been reached according to which the latter have agreed to open new offices in places to be selected by Government, as an experimental measure. The experimental offices will be opened for one year in the first instance and the question of making them permanent and extending the experiment, or closing them owing to their unremunerative character, will be taken up at the end of the year. In regard to the new offices already opened, which have proved unremunerative, the Postal authorities have agreed to make such of them as Government desire to be continued permanent, in case their income covers 50 per cent or more of the cost of establishment. In regard to Telegraph facilities, as a result of the exchange of views between the Government and the Director-General of Telegraphs, that officer has undertaken to open at once, without requiring any guarantee, Telegraph Offices at the undermentioned places in the order of their importance :—

Hole-narsipur,	Jagalur,
Kadur,	Chiknayakanhalli,
Malvalli,	Channagiri,
Belur,	Challakere,

and T. Narsipur.

The Director-General has also undertaken to open up new lines traversing the State on the guaranteed system so as to connect the Post Offices at Nelamangala, Channarayapatna, Hole-narsipur, Ayanur, Shikarpur, Siralkoppa and Sorab with Bangalore. Government are anxious that all taluk headquarter stations should be connected by telegraph for administrative purposes.

Water Supply Schemes.

Projects for water supply schemes for 18 towns have been prepared, the total cost of which amounts to Rs. 18,76,287. Four important schemes, *viz.*, those for Bhadravati New Town, Chintamani, Molakalmuru and Chikmagalur, were under execution

the total estimated cost of which is Rs. 4,61,314 and the outlay up to the end of June 30th is about 2½ lakhs. The total grant during the past five years for water supply schemes came to Rs. 3,58,932 and the expenditure to Rs. 2,51,964. During my recent tour, the need for improvements in the existing water supply systems of Kolar and Chitaldrug was brought prominently to my notice. The growing town of Tumkur also very strongly urged the necessity for an up-to-date water supply scheme. It is the intention of Government to take up these questions at an early date and, as the municipalities concerned are anxious to contribute their quota of the expenditure involved, necessary steps will be taken to provide grants from State funds so as to make a commencement of these urgent improvements. In the case of the water supply schemes of Bangalore and Mysore Cities which are not at all self-supporting, orders were passed during the year directing that the maintenance charge in connection therewith should in future be met by the Municipal Councils concerned. In the case of Bangalore, the capital cost of all future developments of the scheme is also ordered to be met from the funds of the Municipal Council.

Retrenchments.

Since my Address to this Assembly at the Birthday session, the Special Finance Committee have concluded their labours and submitted their final report. I have no doubt you have read with interest their very lucid explanation of the present financial situation and the remedies which they have recommended. Government have published in the Gazette their orders on each of the proposals in respect of retrenchments as embodied in the various recommendations of the Committee and I shall refrain from any elaborate reference to this subject in this Address. The effect of the retrenchments of all kinds already made or ordered, calculated with reference to the standard of actual expenditure in 1920-21 is a saving of about Rs. 50 lakhs. A statement showing how these figures are arrived at, and also the salaries of Service Departments and other charges at the end of 1920-21 and those provided for in the budget for 1922-23 is appended below:—

Statement of Retrenchments.

No. of resolution	Subject matter	Savings proposed by the Committee	Effected in the revised Budget for 1921-22	Effected in the Budget for 1922-23	Ordered but not effected	Total *
1	Administration	70,000	13,300	52,200	...	65,500
2	Staff and Household of His Highness ..	45,000	..	...	...	..
3	Revision of scale of salaries of Officers of and above the grade of Deputy Commissioners	71,000	....	23,100	27,000	50,100
6	Economic Conference	71,000	15,000	16,000	..	31,000
7	Grants for Public Improvements ...	3,83,000	66,000	—14,000	..	52,000
8	Abolition of post of the Sanitary Commissioner and Health Officers ...	44,000	6,400	...	18,000	24,400
9	Village Savings and Collecting Savings Banks	7,000	...	...	5,500	5,500
11	Medical Department (Local Fund Dispensaries)	90,000	...	...	...	..
12	Scientific and Miscellaneous ...	24 000	...	12,100	6,400	18,500
13	Supervision of Mines	12,000	...	...	12,000	12,000
16	Land Revenue	32,000	3,100	12,000	29,700	44,800
17	Forest Department	90,000	...	28,100	27,100	55,200
18	Excise Department	32,000	...	...	19,600	19,600
19	Stationery and Printing	50,000	—1,57,000	1 31,000	..	—26,000
20	Police Department	1,22,000	—22,000	—43,000	20,500	—44,500
21	Industries and Commerce	87,000	—7,000	73,000	..	66,000
22	Public Works Department	10,00,000	—3,26,000	6,52 000	..	+3,26 000
23	Medical Department	36,000	..	360	2,500	2,860
24	Jails	10,000	..	...	4,000	4,000
26	Education	5,85,000	97,000	2,41,000	15,250	3,53,250
27	Co-operative Societies	22,000	...	...	8,400	8,400
28	Geology	25,000	...	...	33,800	33,800
29	Amrut Mahal Department	22,000	...	...	10,000	10,000
30	Civil Secretariat and					
31	Muzrai	73,000	3,800	25,700	24,000	53,500
32	Kunigal Stud Farm	74,000	—22,300	31,900	..	9,600
33	Military	1,62,000	50,700	19,500	..	70,200
34	Travelling Allowances	1,00,000	..	78,000	22 000	1,00,000
35	Duty and other allowances ..	1,00,000	..	...	52,000	52,000
36	Combination of Heads of Departments	17,000	..	...	..	..
37	Reduction of Barr Infantry ..	1,00,000	..	...	..	..
38	Reduction in Menial Staff ..	1,25,000	..	...	1,00,000	1,00,000
39	Judicial Department	5 000	...	...	..	..
40	Comptroller's Office	15,000	...	...	10 100	10,100
41	Agricultural, Sericultural and Gardens Departments	25,00	....	...	10,750	10,750
	Grand Total ..	37,26,000	+2,55,300 —5,34,300	+13,96,260 —57,000	4,58,600	+15,89,360 —70,500

Total Plus .. .. Rs. 21,10,160
Total Minus .. „ 5,91,300
Balance, *i.e.*, Total savings ordered by Government up to date on the proposals of the committee. } Rs. 15,18,860

Savings shown in Budget for 1922-23. { Rs. 2,55,300 + 13,96,260 = 16,51,560 } — { Rs. 5,34,300 + 57,000 = 5,91,300 } = Rs. —10,60,260 †

Total Service Expenditure.
Accounts for 1920 21 = 322·36 lakhs
Revised for 1921-22 = 293 03 lakhs
Budget for 1922-23 = 276 72 lakhs

Retrenchments effected.
(*a*) 29·33 lakhs
(*b*) 16·31 lakhs
(*c*) 4 58 lakhs (Total of further retrenchment since ordered.)

Total ... 50·22 lakhs

* The figures under this column differ in some cases, with the figures noted in Government Orders on the proposals of the committee as only the retrenchments which may be brought into effect early are taken into calculation

† The standard of service expenditure assumed by the committee in formulating their proposals is Rs. 285·50 lakhs (*vide* pages 10 and 71). It differs both from the amount fixed for service charges in the Budget of 1921-22 (Rs. 280·80) lakhs and the actual expenditure in the year as per revised estimate (Rs. 293·03). The total amount shown at § as retrenched on the recommendation of the committee differs from the net reduction in service charges on the Budget of 1922-23 as compared with the standard adopted by the committee owing to increased provision for expenditure under other heads.

NOTE.—The total service expenditure as fixed in the Budget for the current year is Rs. 45·64 lakhs less than the actual expenditure under service heads incurred in 1920-21. Since the Budget was fixed further retrenchments have been ordered bringing up the total of the retrenchments effected as compared with the expenditure in 1920-21 to Rs. 50·22 lakhs.

It has to be borne in mind that a serious dislocation of economic conditions caused by the War and its consequences is not a little responsible for the enhancement all round of the cost of living. This created the necessity to grant relief to the subordinate establishments early in 1918-19. This relief was at first given as a temporary High Price Allowance and increased from Rs. 7 lakhs in that year to Rs. 25 lakhs in 1920-21. This had to be continued subsequently as a permanent measure at a reduced rate, by merging the allowance in the salary. The increased scale of pay allowed in lieu of the High Price Allowance has entailed a recurring annual expenditure of about Rs. 20,00,000 per annum.

The total service expenditure in the State according to the standard of the actuals of 1920-21 inclusive of Rs. 25 lakhs under High Price Allowance is Rs. 322·36 lakhs. The total service expenditure as fixed in the budget for the current year inclusive of Rs. 20 lakhs as additional salaries is Rs. 45·64 lakhs less than the actuals of 1920-21. Since the budget was fixed, further retrenchments have been ordered, bringing about a total retrenchment, as compared with the expenditure of 1921-22, of Rs. 50·22 lakhs. This represents a reduction in the total service expenditure of the State on the 1920-21 standard, by one-sixth.

Before leaving this subject, I wish to invite your attention to certain important considerations arising out of these retrenchments. A periodical overhauling of the official machinery in the manner we have recently done helps, no doubt, to do away with overgrown or useless parts, and so far as our retrenchments have been effected with this object in view, there is a distinct gain to the administration. We have however felt compelled to go very much further with a view to reduce the large deficit and in almost all the departments the superior and subordinate staffs have been cut down to the minimum required to carry on the routine work and many useful activities have been considerably curtailed. There has been also a change in the organization of some deparments by amalgamation, etc. One immediate result is that a considerable number of men of the superior and the subordinate services in the executive and the ministerial grades have no place; men in permanent employ who have not completed the age of superannuation have to be retired; men who have been temporarily holding appointments for a number of years have lost in emoluments and rank and a large number of temporary employees including young men who are appointed on probation in some of the technical departments

with a view to eventual confirmation as well as men who have received training for special classes of work have to lose their places or the promised employment ; Government have to restrict the enlistment of new recruits in the Engineering and other technical departments and the guarantees given in that respect have to be temporarily suspended. The public service in its various departments of administration affords openings and careers for our young men, but the general reduction of staff and the suspension of some of the activities have closed all these openings for a time and deprived many of the young graduates of our University—specially those in Engineering, Commerce, Geology, etc.,—of an opportunity to serve their country. This, in my view, is a most distressing and unsatisfactory feature created by the present financial situation.

Apart from the hardships to individuals above enumerated so far as employment in the State is concerned, retrenchments in the grants for various useful activities and developments directly affect the well-being of the people. Grants for malnad improvement, village improvements, rural and town water supply, and miscellaneous public improvements as well as allotments for the extension of medical aid, grants for more original works under communications and irrigation works, as well as for civil buildings have had to be ruthlessly cut down to reduce the large deficit. This indeed is a deplorable state of affairs which cannot be allowed to continue for long. It will therefore be the endeavour of His Highness' Government to develop our revenue resources as early as possible in order that adequate funds may be allotted for the departments directly connected with the moral and material development of the people and also to place the services once more on an efficient and contented footing.

Suits against Government.

The Civil Procedure Code as in force in Mysore does not confer the right of suit against Government though the right to sue officers for acts in their official capacity is conceded. The State usually takes up the defence in such cases and pays in the event of a decree but in the working of it there are a number of inconveniences due to change of incumbents, etc. In certain Regulations such as the Land Revenue Code, the Limitation Regulation, etc., the right of suit is indicated in certain directions but remains latent as the procedure to be followed in such cases

has not been specified. In the case of others as in the Land Acquisition Regulation, the right is enforceable. But in respect of contractual relations and of matters arising out of commercial enterprises and business concerns run by the Government, the existing remedies are not adequate. Representations have been made from time to time that necessary legislation should be introduced providing for suits against Government in accordance with similar provisions in some of the other Indian States as well as in British India. The reply given by Government on subject No. 37 of the last Birthday session was to the effect that a Bill would be placed before the Legislative Council at an early date. Government have now decided to take action in this matter and it is proposed to specify in clear and definite terms the classes of cases in which Government are prepared to concede the right. A draft Bill has been prepared for the purpose and this will be placed before you at this session for a general expression of opinion by this Assembly.

The Mysore Newspapers Regulation of 1908.

During the year, Government directed an enquiry into the conduct of 3 newspapers in the State and called upon the editors to show cause why action should not be taken under the regulation. The Government have now passed orders, after considering the report of the late Chief Judge, Sir Leslie Miller in 2 of the cases.

The repeal or modification of the Mysore Newspapers Regulation has been pressed in this Assembly since 1916. In 1916 Government stated that the time was not yet ripe for re-opening the question and assured the Assembly that no honest editor may entertain any fears. In 1917 the Government stated they wished to encourage the increase of newspapers in the State but the question of repealing the Regulation could not be considered until after the War. Government directed, however, that the penal provisions of the Regulation should not be resorted to without a previous *quasi*-judicial enquiry by a Judge of the Chief Court.

The question has nevertheless come up again and again. In 1919 Government promised to consider the question of repeal. In 1920 they said that they would "see what further modifications, if any, might be made in the Regulation with a view to making it less drastic."

In his Address to the Assembly during Dasara, 1921, the Dewan himself made a reference to this subject and said :—"The penalties provided in this Rugulation

are not graduated to the nature of the offence and are so drastic that there is reason to believe that it operates as a distinct obstacle in the way of the development of free and independent journalism. The question of the repeal or amendment of the existing law is now under the consideration of the Government." In the course of the discussions, the opinion of the House showed itself to be in favour of amendment rather than repeal. The general trend of opinion was summarised by the Dewan as follows in his concluding remarks:—"The general sense, I take it, is that the drastic provisions of the Regulation may be removed from the Statute Book but that some effective control over the press should be retained by the Government. . . . The views of this Assembly will receive due consideration."

I am now happy to announce that action is proposed to be taken for the repeal of the existing Press Law and the enactment of a new Bill more in keeping with the general public opinion of the country. This amending Bill will also be placed before you at this session for an expression of your opinion. Its main features are:—

(1) Permission of Government to edit, print or publish a paper will be dispensed with;

(2) The nature of the matter, the publication of which offends against the law, will be categorically defined;

(3) No action will be taken against a newspaper without a judicial enquiry; and

(4) Any order passed after such enquiry will be subject to appeal to the Chief Court.

Impressions of the Dewan's tour.

Recently, I made an extensive tour in the maidan districts of Kolar, Tumkur and Chitaldrug and in dealing with the work of the several departments during the past year I have made reference to some of the impressions that I gathered during my inspections. Last June, in concluding the debate on the budget in the Mysore Legislative Council, I enumerated twelve important subjects as being most urgent in regard to the future work of the administration. My tour was undertaken partly to have personal knowledge of the present condition of work in the various departments so as to enable me to deal with these subjects as effectively and expeditiously as possible. I may tell you that the tour enabled me to gather very useful information in regard to item No. 5 in the list that I have already placed before the Legislative Council, *viz.*, the improve-

ment of district administration. Proposals are now being formulated by me with a view to revise the methods and procedure in regard to the work generally. My general impression after the tour is that the routine administration of the districts leaves considerable room for improvement. There are, besides, a very large number of standing grievances and wants of the people which can be redressed readily by the district administration itself. The representations made by the people related chiefly to tanks, drinking water wells, school buildings, disposal of lands on darkhast, forest grievances, etc. The people are extremely quick in responding to sympathy on the part of Government and are also willing to come forward to co-operate in every possible manner, not only for all measures connected with the spread of education in regard to which the keenness is ever on the increase, but also in regard to all works of public improvement—whether it be communications or wells or tanks or school buildings. The economic condition of the poorer classes of agriculturists is not satisfactory and I have now become convinced of the necessity for a detailed economic survey into their condition.

All these questions will, I wish to assure you, continue to receive the closest attention from the Government.

Conclusion.

The Mysore Government at the present moment deserve, I think, some sympathy and forbearance. They are hemmed in on all sides by the bugbear of financial stringency. The conflict that has been created by the present situation between the necessities of a progressive administration and the financial necessity of economy in all directions is both serious and distressing. All these influences and conditions of work, while making it necessary to discharge the obligations created in the past in regard to large projects and schemes that have to be pushed forward, give little or no scope for further developments in the departments on which depend the moral and material well-being of the people. The goal we have set before us is to equalize normal revenue and normal expenditure, separate productive works finance from the general finance and set it apart for the improvement of our assets and thus improve their revenue producing capacity. There is besides the imperative need for provision under the essential reserves, *e.g.*, famine insurance, irrigation capital, industrial development fund. There is bound to be temporary dislocation,

some sacrifice of efficiency for the time being, and some dissatisfaction and discontent. My aim is to reduce the period of these depressing factors to a minimum.

Gentlemen, I have covered a very extensive ground in the Address and I fear I have considerably taxed your patience. The problems before the administration are now of such a complicated character that it is necessary to take stock of the position as accurately as possible and my excuse for going into all the important questions that are now engaging our attention at some length is only that.

Before I conclude, you will expect me to say a few words on the important subject of the grant to the people of a larger share in the administration of the State. I regret, however, that owing to unavoidable circumstances I am unable to do so to-day. I hope to be able to make an announcement within the next two or three days which will be to your entire satisfaction.

The task that now lies before the Government requires courage, patience and fortitude. I have every confidence that they can rely in these times of stress and difficulties on the united voice of the people, the oracle of the Statesman's consultation, which will make itself heard more definitely and audibly than in the past. Mysore has a proud record of enlightened administration under His Highness' wise and benevolent rule and it rests with His Highness' subjects to make the best use of the opportunities afforded to them to co-operate with Government and to advance in closer connection with Government onward in the march of true and steady progress and definite achievement in everything that materially affects the general welfare and prosperity of the State.

A. R. BANERJI,
Dewan of Mysore.